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RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 EXPEDITED PROCEDURE REQUESTED EXAMINING GROUP 1763

PATENT

Customer No. 22,852 Attorney Docket No. 07553.0017

N THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Mitsuru ISHIKAWA et al.

Application No.: 09/696,232

Filed: October 26, 2000

For: ETCHING METHOD

Group Art Unit / 176

Examiner: A. Olsen

Mail Stop AF

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL

In reply to the Final Office Action mailed June 5, 2003, and pursuant to 37 C.F.R.

§ 1.116, Applicants propose that this application be amended as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims in this paper.

Remarks follow the amendment section of this paper.

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